Commonwealth and Independence Law which he had previously signed, President Franklin D. Roosevelt placed himself among the three American Presidents, William McKinley and Woodrow Wilson being the other two, who had approved vitally important state documents which will go down into Philippine history.

Another important step in the orderly process leading to independence had been taken. The Filipino people stood on the threshold of nationhood.

SUBMISSION OF THE CONSTITUTION TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

The Constitution of the Philippines was next submitted for the scrutiny of the Filipino electorate. Their vote had a twofold meaning. It meant acceptance or rejection of the Constitution and acceptance or rejection of independence.

Registered qualified voters were afforded an opportunity to vote directly for or against the Constitution in an election held on May 14, 1935. Curiously enough women, although practically disfranchised by the Constitution, were permitted to cast ballots on the ratification or rejection of this same Constitution. The question asked the electors was, "Do you vote for the ratification of the Constitution of the Philippines, with the Ordinance appended thereto?[3']

A campaign of publicity for the approval of the Constitution was supervised by government officials and convention delegates. A counter campaign against the Constitution was carried on more secretly and insidiously by the radical group.

When the votes were canvassed, it was found that 1,213,046 votes had been cast for the Constitution and 44,963 votes against the Constitution.

An analysis of the plebiscite figures discloses some interesting facts. In the first place, the vote even with the women participating was less than for a regular election. In the sec-